



The State of New Hampshire  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**



**Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner**

January 20, 2010

The Honorable Judith Spang, Chairman  
House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee  
Legislative Office Building Room 308  
Concord, NH 03301

**RE: House Bill 1462 establishing a shoreland advisory council**

Dear Madam Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB 1462, which would establish a shoreland advisory council. The Department of Environmental Services (DES) supports the creation of an advisory council as a means to promote greater understanding and evaluation of RSA 483-B and its ongoing implementation.

As you know, effective July 1, 2009 there was a permit required to perform work on properties that were located within the 250 foot protected shoreland. As a result of this new statutory requirement and subsequent rulemaking, there was a significant amount of misunderstanding about what activities in the shoreland zone needed a DES permit. The primary focus of the council is to address residential shorefront owners concerns relative to the implementation of the law. It is DES' hope that the diverse makeup of this council will provide valuable perspective and feedback that will allow us to better serve the regulated public.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue. Please call me at 271-2958, or Rene Pelletier at 271-2951, if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

*Michael Walls, Ass't Comm*  
Thomas S. Burack  
Commissioner

cc: Representative Spang  
Representative Borden  
Representative Boyce  
Representative O'Neil  
Senator Fuller Clark  
Senator Bradley  
Senator Hassan  
Senator Odell